

Readers write

Christian Science Monitor 9-27-74
No Objection To Declassification in Full 2010/08/27 : LOC-HAK R-110-5

Chile, Miami, and the CIA

To The Christian Science Monitor:

In your editorial, "CIA and Chile," you ask: "... If the CIA is permitted to abet the disintegration of constitutionally elected governments — however unpalatable their ideology — does not the U.S. lose its moral authority to condemn similar subversive action by a Communist power?"

The answer is obvious, of course, but incredible as it may be, if the Kissinger-CIA machinations in Chile prove to be true, then the American electorate must pose to themselves the much more critical question: "If the CIA is permitted to abet the disintegration of constitutionally elected governments can the day be far off when similar actions take place in the U.S.?"

I certainly endorse your call for full-scale public hearings into the CIA's role in Chile, as called for by Congressman Michael Harrington.

And no investigation would be complete unless these include the actions of the Justice Department in the case of Oscar Squella-Avendano, the man who first nominated Salvador Allende for president in 1969 and who was his campaign manager and personal friend until he (Squella) was arrested in Miami shortly prior to the Chilean election in September of 1970.

The loss of Oscar Squella to president-elect Allende at that critical moment and later, when the actual shooting began, was similar to Nixon losing Kissinger from the outset of his administration.

As a former officer in the Air Force, Squella's shakeup of this branch of the service's hierarchy earned him many enemies. Subsequent to exposing most of those who now comprise the military junta in Chile, Mr. Squella flew to Miami in July of 1970. He was concerned about the large

sums of money that he believed Chilean Sen. Sergio Onofre Jarpa was shuttling from the U.S. to Chile after ostensibly political get-togethers in Miami and, later, Washington, from 1970 through 1973. These funds, undoubtedly, were a portion of the now infamous CIA moneys contributed to "destabilize" the Allende government, support the Chilean truck drivers strike, ad infinitum.

I'm sure that no amount of official pardons and related cover-ups can keep the truth from becoming known eventually.

Kenneth E. McPeck
U.S. Penitentiary

Atlanta, Ga.

Letters expressing readers' views are welcome. Each receives editorial consideration though only a selection can be published and none individually acknowledged. All are subject to condensation.

No Objection To Declassification in Full 2010/08/27 : LOC-HAK R-110-5